Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0419] with the following amended paragraph:

[0419] MeCN acetonitrile.

Example 1

(±)-trans-1,1-Dioxo-3-ethyl-3-butyl-5-phenyl~~-7-methylthio~~-8-(N-{(R)-α-[N'-(2-(S)-3-(R)-4-(R)-5-(R)-2,3,4,5,6-pentahydroxyhexyl)carbamoyl]benzyl}carbamoylmethoxy)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,4-benzothiazepine

Please replace paragraph [0430] with the following amended paragraph:

[0430] 3,5-trans-1,1-Dioxo-3-ethyl-3-butyl-5-phenyl-7-methylthio-8-(carboxymethoxy)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,4-benzothiazepine (Method 7; 50 mg, 0.105 mmol) was dissolved in DCM (2 ml). 2,6-Lutidine (0.025 ml, 0.215 mmol), TBTU (45 mg, 0.140 mmol) and (R)-α-[N-(t-butoxycarbonylmethyl)carbamoyl]benzylamine (~~Method 4;~~ 43 mg, 0.163 mmol) were added successively. The mixture was stirred for 2 hours at ambient temperature. The solution was concentrated and the intermediate ester was purified by chromatography on silica using DCM/EtOAc (9/1) as eluent. The solvent was evaporated to yield 45 mg (60%). M/z: 724. The ester was dissolved in 3 ml DCM and hydrolysed by addition of TFA (1 ml). After 2 hours the mixture was concentrated and purified using preparative HPLC. A gradient of MeCN from 40% to 60% in 0.1 M ammonium acetate buffer was used as eluent. Lyophilisation yielded 33 mg (80%). NMR (400 MHz): 0.75-0.85 (m, 3H), 0.85-0.95 (m, 3H), 1.1-1.65 (m, 6H), 1.75-1.9 (m, 1H), 2.0 (s, 3H), 2.2-2.4 (m, 1H), 3.1-3.55 (m, 2H), 3.85 (ABq, 2H), 4.6-4.8 (m, 2H), 5.6 (s, 1H), 5.98-6.03 (m, 1H), 6.4 (s, 1H), 7.25-7.56 (m, 11H); m/z: 668.

Method 7

3,5-trans-1,1-Dioxo-3-ethyl-3-butyl-5-phenyl-7-methylthio-8-(carboxymethox- y)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,4-benzothiazepine